Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SOE-02 OES-09 AID-05 L-03 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 NSAE-00 EB-08 NRC-05 DODE-00 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 DOEE-00 /111 W

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O R 280637Z JUL 78 FM AMCONSUL BOMBAY TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8463 INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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FOR BASTIN, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: MNUC, TECH, IN

SUBJ: TARAPUR RERACKING SUTDY

REF: BASTIN-COURTNEY TELECON OF JULY 27.

- 1. I CONVEYED TO J.C. SHAH YOUR MESSAGE ABOUT THE URGENCY OF COMPLETING THE AMENDMENT OF CLAUSE 9 OF THE RERACKING STUDY AGREEMENT EXTENDING THE INDEMNITY PROVISIONS TO COVER TECHNICAL CONSULTATION SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT. I EMPHASIZED TO SHAH THAT BOTH THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND GE CONSIDER THIS EQUIPMENT AND RELATED SERVICES ESSENTIAL IF THE POOLS ARE TO BE READY TO RECEIVE THE INTERIM RACKS AT THE TIME OF THE NEXT REFUELING IN FEBRUARY 1979. I TOLD SHAH THAT EVEN A DELAY OF A FEW DAYS AT ANY STAGE NOW WOULD BE LIKELY TO MEAN AN EQUIVALENT DELAY IN THE INSTALLATION OF THE NEW RACKS NEXT YEAR.
- 2. SHAH SAID THAT HE AGREED WITH YOUR ASSESSMENT OF THE URGENCY OF MOVING AHEAD AT ALL POSSIBLE SPEED. HE SAID LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT HIS INITIAL TALKS WITH HIS LEGAL PEOPLE INDICATE THAT THEY WOULD BE AGREEABLE TO THE AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY GE. HE PROMISED TO PUSH THIS TO CONCLUSION WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK OR POSSIBLY BY THE END OF THIS WEEK BEFORE I DEPART FOR A LONG-SCHEDULED TRIP TO NAGPUR IN THE CENTER OF INDIA

3. IN VIEW OF SHAH'S FORTHRIGHT OFFER TO EXPEDITE THIS MATTER AND OF HIS REITERATION OF HIS HOPES FOR AN EARLY SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION, I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE UNWISE FOR ME TO GO TO SETHNA AT THIS POINT. AS YOU KNOW WE ARE HAVING DIFFICULTY IN MAINTAINING A TOLERABLE LEVEL OF COOPERATION FROM SHAH AND I WOULD NOT WANT TO JEOPARDIZE WHAT REMAINS OF THIS GOODWILL BY A MOVE WHICH HE UNDOUBTEDLY WOULD INTERPRET AS "GOING OVER HIS HEAD", IF THAT CAN BE AVOIDED. COURTNEY

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